

Serial No. 10/659,805
Docket ITW 0006 IA/41038.9/14350

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 were pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 24, and 27 have been amended. As a result of this amendment, claims 1-54 remain pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are requested in light of the accompanying amendment and remarks.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 44-46.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the examiner's statement that claims 3-8, 10-19, 21, 23, 27-33, 35-43, 47, 48, 51, and 52 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 9, 24-26, 34, 49, 50, 53, and 54 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Kye (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0197563) has been overcome. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to recite that the resin component includes "a plasticizer/accelerator" from claims 3 and 27, which were indicated to be allowable. Kye neither teaches nor suggests this material. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 9, 24-26, 34, 49, 50, 53, and 54 are not anticipated by, and they would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made over Kye.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 9, 20, 22, 24-26, 34, 49, 50, 53, and 54 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon (U.S. Patent No. 6,645,341) has been overcome. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to recite that the resin component includes "a plasticizer/accelerator" from claims 3 and 27, which were indicated to be allowable. Gordon neither teaches nor suggests this material. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 9, 20, 22, 24-26, 34, 49, 50, 53, and 54 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made over Gordon.

The rejection of claims 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Kye (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0197563) has been overcome. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to recite that the resin component includes "a plasticizer/accelerator" from claims 3 and 27, which were indicated to be allowable. Kye neither teaches nor suggests this material. Therefore, claims 20, and 22 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made over Kye.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that, in view of the above amendment and remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1-54 be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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